

US005555157A

United States Patent [19]

Moller et al.

[11] Patent Number:

5,555,157

[45] Date of Patent:

Sep. 10, 1996

[54]	ENCLOSURE FOR ELECTRONIC		
	APPARATUS HAVING A COVER CATCH		
	MEMBER ENGAGEABLE WITH TWO		
	DIFFERENT HOUSING CATCH MEMBERS		

[75] Inventors: Ronald J. Moller, Boulder Creek;

Jonathan P. Ive, San Francisco, both of

Calif.

[73] Assignee: Apple Computer, Inc., Cupertino,

Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: 205,309

[22] Filed: Mar. 2, 1994

235/10; 361/680, 683, 679, 681; 206/305;

220/326, 241

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,049,862	9/1991	Dao et al 340/706
5,128,829	7/1992	Loew 361/380
5,253,142	10/1993	Weng 361/680
5,430,248	7/1995	Levy 174/50

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Cohen, Raines, "Slimmed-Down MessagePad to Beef up RAM, Recognition," MacWEEK, Feb. 14, 1994, vol. 8, No. 7, pp. 1 & 84.

Primary Examiner—Michael W. Phillips
Assistant Examiner—Phuong T. Vu
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Hickman, Beyer & Weaver

[57] ABSTRACT

An enclosure for an electrical apparatus includes a housing having top and bottom surfaces and a plurality of side surfaces, and an electrical apparatus, such as a pen-based computer, disposed within the housing such that the housing and the apparatus present a user interface region proximate to the top surface. A cover coupled to the housing by a compound hinge can be moved between a closed position substantially overlaying the user interface region and an open position substantially overlaying a portion of the bottom surface of the housing. The cover protects the user interface region when in the closed position and exposes the user interface region for use when in the open position. A cover catch member coupled to the cover engages a topsurface housing catch member when the cover is in the closed position, and the cover catch member engages a bottom-surface housing catch member at the open position. A release button, when activated, disengages the top-surface housing catch member from the cover catch member. The top-surface housing catch member includes a unitary latch structure that can be manufactured easily and with reduced cost.

27 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

